

ment in a large number of reports from elevated regions that the accumulated depth of snow in the mountains at the close of the month was much below the average. The precipitation records for late fall and winter fully confirm this view of the conditions, since the accumulated deficiency of the last four months is very pronounced in every part of the State. At lower levels the ground has been bare of snow most of the winter, except over a comparatively small area in the north central portion.—*R. F. Young, Section Director.*

*Nevada.*—February was noteworthy for its frequent and heavy snowstorms. The snowfall was considerably above the normal, particularly in the Sierras. In the Truckee, Carson, and Walker Basins more precipitation occurred in February than in the five preceding months put together. By the close of the month the great deficiency noted at the termination of January, 1915, had been reduced appreciably, though not entirely offset. The general condition of the snow on the ground was reported as loose and favorable for early melting. The prospects for an ample supply of water for irrigation this summer are good.—*H. F. Alciatore, Section Director.*

*New Mexico.*—The snowfall of February averaged more than 8 inches for the entire State, despite the fact that little or no snow occurred over the lower levels of the southern tier of counties. The seasonal average fall is thus 27.5 inches, or almost 10 inches in excess of the normal, and nearly 5 inches greater than at a like period last season. The mountain areas were well favored, the central and southern especially. Observers report the largest snowfall for several years in the Capitan, White, and Manzano Mountains. The continuation of the cool, comparatively cloudy, wet season, begun in December has been highly favorable to the State in conserving the moisture and adding to the stored depth.

Considerable improvement has occurred over the Canadian and Northeast ranges, and the stored depth over the main range now indicates a fair early flow in that stream. The snowfall over the higher areas tributary to the Pecos, the San Francisco, Gila and Mimbres, Zuni, and the Rio Grande in New Mexico was large and has further improved conditions on these streams, indicating a good early flow. Improvement has also occurred over the northeast tributaries of the San Juan, and this stream will no doubt have abundant water for all its demands.—*C. E. Linney, Section Director.*

*Oregon.*—Snowfall was light and by the end of the month many of the south and west slopes of the Cascade range were bare and there was practically no snow on the ground in the cultivated valleys. Fears are entertained that there will be a shortage of water late in the spring for irrigation and placer mining.—*E. A. Beals, District Forecaster.*

*South Dakota.*—The average snowfall in the Black Hills region, as well as elsewhere in the State, was near normal, but the average amount on ground at the end of March was greater than the normal. Gulches are filled with snow, and in many places thawing and freezing have changed the snow to ice. The outlook for spring soil moisture generally, and for water for irrigation purposes in the Black Hills region, is excellent. Stream flow is somewhat greater than normal, but melting snow has been largely absorbed by the ground.—*M. E. Blystone, Meteorologist.*

*Utah.*—Substantial gain was made in the accumulated amounts of snow in the mountains and hills of Utah during February. In both the Sevier Lake and the southern portion of the Colorado River watershed the snow is well packed and in favorable condition for late keeping. In Great Salt Lake watershed the available snow is still not up to the normal and the conclusion is drawn that the prospective water supply is less than the average amount.—*A. H. Thiessen, Section Director.*

*Wyoming.*—Snow depths were substantially increased on the watersheds of the Big Horn, Green, North Platte, Powder, and Snake Rivers during February, but on the watersheds of the Cheyenne, Tongue, and upper Yellowstone there was but little improvement.—*R. Q. Grant, Section Director.*

*Washington.*—February, 1915, was very similar to February, 1914, in mildness of the weather and deficiency in snowfall. The snowfall in the mountains of Washington was, on the whole, less than in any former February since regular records began.—*G. S. Salisbury, Section Director.*

#### MEAN LAKE LEVELS DURING FEBRUARY, 1915.

By UNITED STATES LAKE SURVEY.

[Dated: Detroit, Mich., Mar. 4, 1915.]

The following data are reported in the Notice to Mariners of the above date:

Data.	Lakes.			
	Superior.	Michigan and Huron.	Erie.	Ontario.
Mean level during February, 1915:				
Above mean sea level at New York.....	Feet. 601.70	Feet. 579.54	Feet. 571.41	Feet. 244.99
Above or below—				
Mean stage of January, 1915.....	— 0.11	+ 0.10	+ 0.32	+ 0.29
Mean stage of February, 1914.....	— 0.51	— 0.54	— 0.30	— 0.88
Average stage for February, last 10 years.....	— 0.09	— 0.54	— 0.27	— 0.78
Highest recorded February stage.....	— 0.78	— 3.18	— 2.34	— 2.68
Lowest recorded February stage.....	+ 0.94	+ 0.38	+ 0.78	+ 1.16
Probable change during March, 1915.....	— 0.2	0.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1